

Satellite image with enhanced low cloud-top temperatures (degrees C) for 6:45 a.m. EST (NOAA)

Agricultural Weather Highlights - Monday - July 9, 2001

- *In the West*, cloudiness and beneficial showers are suppressing temperatures across the *Intermountain region*, aiding pastures and dryland summer crops. In the *Northwest*, however, hot, dry weather is increasing stress on small grains, including filling winter wheat.
- On the Plains, an untimely heat wave persists across the southern half of the region, stressing reproductive summer crops, including corn, cotton, soybeans, sorghum, and peanuts. Beneficial showers are beginning to overspread the northern High Plains, where recent hot weather has hastened winter wheat maturation but adversely affected drought-stressed pastures and spring-sown small grains.
- *In the Corn Belt*, warm weather and generally adequate soil moisture levels favor corn and soybeans, approaching or entering reproduction across *southern portions of the region*. Scattered showers linger across the *Ohio Valley*, causing minor winter wheat harvest delays.
- *In the South*, mostly adequate soil moisture and very warm conditions are promoting rapid summer crop development. Beneficial showers are spreading into the *interior South* and continue in *Florida*.

<u>Outlook</u>: For the remainder of the week, hot, dry conditions will persist across the *south-central U.S.*, while beneficial showers are forecast to overspread the *central Plains*. Widespread showers will help to offset some of the effects of very warm weather in the *Southeast*. Showers are forecast to accompany near- to below-normal temperatures in the *Corn Belt* and across the *West*. The NWS 6-10 day outlook for July 14-18 calls for near- to above-normal temperatures nationwide, except for cool weather along the *Atlantic Seaboard*. Mostly dry weather is forecast from the *central Plains to the western Corn Belt*, while wet conditions are expected in the *northern Plains, interior Northwest, and much of the South*, including *Texas*.

Contact: Brad Rippey, Agricultural Meteorologist, USDA/OCE/WAOB, Washington, D.C. (202-720-2397)